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UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY REGION III 1650 Arch Street

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103-2029

June 24, 1999

Larisa Salamacha
Development Director
Baltimore Development Corporation
36 South Charles Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21201

Dear Ms. Salamacha:

In March of 1996, EPA and the Baltimore Development Corporation began to develop an XL for Communities (XLC) project for the Fairfield Ecological Business Park. In June of 1996, the Agency invited the BDC to develop a Final Project Agreement for the XLC project. This Agreement would provide flexibility to facilities located within the Business Park in return for better environmental performance at the Park and the involvement of stakeholders in the development of the XLC project.

The goals of your XLC proposal were impressive and had the potential to create a model for other efforts to establish eco-industrial parks nationally. We appreciate the challenges of operating in an area where there are not many examples or precedents to follow. We are confronted with similar challenges in working with Project XL at EPA.

One of our challenges currently in XLC is to focus on those projects that demonstrate the most potential for reaching the milestone of a signed Final Project Agreement and subsequent implementation of that agreement. The BDC's project has not been active in some months and through our recent conversations with the BDC, we understand that you are no longer interested in pursuing the development of an XLC Final Project Agreement. To make the best use of public resources and based on recent discussions concerning BDC's interest, this letter effectively and respectfully withdraws the Fairfield Ecological Business Park project from Final Project Agreement negotiations.

EPA regrets that the specifics to put your project on a firmer footing were never established. EPA understands the challenge of designing an interrelated set of flexibilities for facilities, some of which are not yet located in the Park. Judging from the information available on the Fairfield web site, it appears that substantial progress has been made in your recruitment efforts and we wish you the best of luck as you continue forward with the establishment of the Ecological Business Park.

Customer Service Hotline: 1-800-438-2474

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Should you wish to speak further with anyone at EPA, please do not hesitate to contact us. I can be reached at 215-814-2714. Thank you for your interest in XL for Communities and best wishes on your efforts to develop the Fairfield site.

Sincerely,

Barbara D'Angelo, Acting Director
Office of Reinvention